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EDITORIAL NOTES

THE OSTEOPATHIC SITUATION.

The JOURNAL has already printed an official statement of the fact that the many "drugless healers" were energetic in their efforts to secure an initiative on the ballot at the next election, their proposed law being one which practically does away with all control of medical standards in the matter of license to practice, and would also allow Osteopathic and other similar schools to grant the degree of doctor of medicine, etc. The "Los Angeles County Osteopathic Association" is at the top of a circular letter dated July 16, 1914, which letter was apparently sent to a number of people with a request that they get signatures to the enclosed petition to the Governor, asking him to do many things. In this circular letter, Dr. Brown, Dr. Pinkham, Dr. Loos and Dr. Buteau come in for special attack and part of the request is that the Governor make other appointments when the term of office of the last three expires in September. Some of the statements in the letter are illuminating, if true. For instance, it states that a committee of the Osteopaths waited upon the Governor to explain "the intolerable" situation—Osteopathic schools not being recognized as medical schools by the Board of Examiners! The committee waited on the Governor and "reports that he gave them a thoroughly sympathetic hearing and unconditionally expressed his disapproval of the action of the majority of the board. He even went so far as to intimate that if they persisted in such attitude, it would mean the unquestionable overthrow of the law at the coming

legislature and the enactment of one which many respects is less desirable from all standpoints, but which is made necessary by the impossibility of securing a square deal on the part of the regular medical appointees. The terms of three of these unfair members of the board—Drs. Brown, Loos and Buteau—expire September 1st. We believe that the signatures of 10,000 voters of California can be promptly placed in the hands of the Governor, protesting against such actions as have been taken and petitioning the Governor for substantial relief." The Governor is a very well educated man and an able lawyer; he certainly must understand the benefit to the people of having properly educated and qualified medical practitioners to attend them in sickness and accident. But the pressure of "10,000 voters of California" is quite considerable, especially in such a troublous campaign as is at present going on. However, the Governor has so often announced his appreciation of his first duty to the whole people of the state that we may hope for his taking a right attitude.

OUR DELEGATES AT THE ATLANTIC CITY MEETING.

A member of our Society who was present at all the meetings of the Delegates of the A. M. A., has sent in the following statement of his views and observations:

"It has occurred to me that a brief account of the splendid work of the California delegates at the recent meeting of the American Medical Association at Atlantic City would prove acceptable to your readers. As an interested spectator throughout the Thursday afternoon session of the House of Delegates at which the election of officers and selection of the next place of meeting took place, I had the privilege of seeing our representatives play the game and win out on every count.

"Drs. V. G. Vecki, H. Bert. Ellis and Geo. Hare, the California delegates, sat together, taking no active part in the proceedings until the interests of their own state became an issue. When nominations to fill the vacancy in the Board of Trustees made by the expiration of the term of office of Dr. Philip Mills Jones were called for, he was promptly named to succeed himself, only one other nomination being made. The first ballot resulted in a tie. Then our boys got very busy and the second ballot landed our Secretary-Editor in his old berth by a safe margin. This happy result should be and undoubtedly is most gratifying to our Society and to the profession of the state at large.

"The matter of the next place of meeting came up on the report of the Standing Committee on Transportation and Place of Meeting. This report unanimously recommended Chicago for the 1915 meeting, thus placing a heavy handicap on San Francisco. Dr. Vecki immediately moved that the report be amended by substituting San Fran-

in which there is also, like in paranoia, a removal of the libido and a regression, this regression goes further back and returns to the infantile autoerotism.

In Chapter VII on Psychopathology of Everyday Life, Freud's conception of consciousness, of the unconscious and the foreconscious is given.

Unconscious are all those psychic manifestations of which the individual is unconscious, they can only be brought to the surface by analysis. The unconscious consists of the sum total of those psychic processes which have been relegated to the depths of the unconscious from the very beginning of childhood. All primitive impulses which have been inhibited during the development of the individual are in a state of repression. They form points of crystallization for the later repressions (erotic material) which are, however, not subjected to the same amount of repression and some of them may remain in the foreconscious. The foreconscious stands between the unconscious and the conscious. The unconscious is incapable of consciousness without analysis, while the foreconscious can reach consciousness, if passed by the censor (cf. chapter on dreams). The resistances which hold the complexes back, are always active but slacken during sleep. The repressed material comes to the surface in the form of dreams but distorted and unrecognizable. They strive for recognition in psychopathological, and also in our normal waking states, in psychopathological actions of every-day life, e. g., lapses of memory, lapsus linguae, lapsus, calami. In all of these cases we must naturally exclude those suffering from any nervous or mental affection producing qualitative or quantitative memory disturbances. There is nothing arbitrary nor accidental in our actions. Analysis always shows that our actions are fully determined by unconscious motives. Psychopathological actions are complex indicators. Repressed thoughts strive to come to the surface and just as the insane realize their ideals in their insanity, we realize our wishes through our dreams and in the "little ways" of every day life.

Chapter VIII deals with hysterical fancies and dreamy states. They are found in both normal and neurotic individuals. These fancies or day dreams serve like dreams to relieve the mind and to secure comfort not to be obtained in reality. They represent wishes. They may remain conscious or merge into the unconscious. In the latter case they may become pathogenic. Analysis shows that the unconscious fancies are connected with the sexual life.

Chapter IX, The Oedipus Complex, its latent influence on normal persons and its negative manifestations in the psychoneuroses and psychoses.

The unconscious parental influence is found in every person. The first woman loved is one's own mother. The mother's image remains as a permanent standard for the female ideal. Normally a repression takes place and the boy gradually projects his love to strangers, but the unconscious first love acts as a constant guide in the future selection of a woman. What is here said of the boy is *pari passu* true of the girl.

This parental influence is usually harmless, but sometimes it acts perniciously, particularly in favorite children overburdened with love. They are not allowed to follow the different stages of the psychosexual evolution and their libido remains fixed on the mother. The result may be psychosexual impotence on account of an unconscious incestuous fixation on the mother which acts as an inhibition to sexual relations with other women. The same conditions are to be applied *caeteris paribus* in girls.

This complex has been spoken of in the male as the oedipus complex, in the female as the electra complex. These terms refer to the sexually emotional relationship between the son and the

mother, or the daughter and the father. It is an incest problem.

The neurotic individual represents regularly, a fragment of psychic infantilism. He is either unable to free himself from the infantile relations of psychosexuality, or he returns to them. A regression takes place. The incestuous fixations of the libido continue to play a great part in his unconscious psychic life.

Chapter X deals with the problem of the only or favorite child in adult life.

Brill has made this a special study. It is an excellent essay.

His conclusions based upon the investigation of a large material are as follows. The only child becomes, usually, a poor competitor in the struggle for existence, he lacks independence, self-confidence and the practical skill which the average boy acquires through competition with other boys. The only child is generally precocious, usually spoiled, often vain and one-sided and develops an exaggerated opinion of himself, becomes conceited, jealous and envious. A predominant feature among the morbid manifestations is the abnormal sexual life, and bearing in mind the evolution of sex from a psychoanalytic viewpoint, this is not at all surprising.

An only child need not necessarily become a neurotic; the danger can be avoided by proper training. Brill shows an interesting analogy between the only and favorite child and the Jewish race. The Jews (the only and favorite child of Jehovah) have displayed all the attributes of the only or favorite child.

In a footnote, Brill discusses the views of Freud in regard to the reasons of the hostility between the proverbial mother-in-law and her son-in-law.

Chapters XI and XII are not well adapted for a short review. In the former analeroticism is discussed and for its understanding a knowledge of Freud's "Three Contributions to the Sexual Theory," is a *sine qua non*.

The last chapter is on Freud's theory of wit. Its relation to the dream and unconscious is analyzed, the technique of wit and its tendencies are investigated; the pleasure, mechanism and psychogenesis of wit are studied and the motives of wit and wit as a social process examined. Finally the difference between wit and the comic is explained.

This brings us to the end of the book. If the perusal of these lines will encourage a few colleagues to read Brill's excellent work and interest them in the literature on psychoanalysis the purpose of this review is accomplished.

C. RENZ.

NEW MEMBERS.

Bock, Charles, Los Angeles.
Blanchard, Wm. Otis, Los Angeles.
Thorner, Moses, Los Angeles.
Nolan, Thos. Jas., Selma, Cal.
Small, Anna M., Oakland.
Collings, Dr. H. A., Winters, Cal.
Johnson, T. T., San Francisco.
Flanagan, L. J., San Francisco.
Butler, Edmund, San Francisco.
Barnes, Otto, Huntington Park, Cal.
Cecil, Arthur Bond, Los Angeles.
Cleaver, Jas. Harvey, Los Angeles.
Cline, John Welby, Los Angeles.
Lancaster, Jesse Samuel, Los Angeles.
Nevius, Jno. W., Los Angeles.
Waddell, W. E., Los Angeles.

DEATHS.

Freeman, Richard Thomas (died at sea).
Southworth, Albert, Los Angeles.
Amos, Wm. McD., Lordsburg, Cal.
Cahen, E. M., Los Angeles.
McCrea, Agnes Benford, died in Los Angeles.